

**Legal Notice of Proposed Action and Opportunity to Comment
Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Atoma Area Expansion DEIS
and
Proposed Amendment of the Toiyabe National Forest
Land and Resource Management Plan**

The Carson Ranger District, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe Atoma Area Expansion Project. The project is located approximately twelve miles north of the intersection of Mt. Rose Highway (Nevada State Route 431) and US 395, immediately north of the Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe base lodge and parking area.

The project involves a permit boundary expansion and construction, operation and maintenance of new ski terrain and associated facilities. The expansion includes the following elements: expanding the ski area boundary; a chairlift servicing the Atoma Area; eleven new ski trails in the Atoma Area; installation of water pipeline to provide new snowmaking coverage; a skier bridge that would span the Mt. Rose Highway linking existing terrain at the main ski area and proposed terrain in the Atoma Area; and a water storage tank to support snowmaking. Additionally, Alternative 2 includes the removal of the Atoma building, and a land and resource management plan amendment that would restrict any future development of commercial uses on approximately 3,446 acres of national forest system land acquired in 1994. Alternative 3 is the same as Alternative 2 except that this alternative was developed to align a chairlift to cross the Mt. Rose Highway directly above the skier bridge. This configuration resulted in a two chairlift configuration and a restroom facility would be located on NFS land.

The DEIS is available for review at South Valleys Library at 15650 Wedge Parkway, Reno NV 89511 and Incline Village Library 845 Alder Avenue, Incline Village, NV 89451. The document is available online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=41487>. Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Marnie Bonesteel, Team Leader, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, Nevada 89431; (775) 352-1240 or mbonesteel@fs.fed.us.

How to Comment and Timeframe: The Environmental Protection Agency published a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the DEIS in the Federal Register on January 19, 2018. Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 90 days following that date. The publication date of the NOA in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for a proposed action documented in a draft EIS. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. Comments may be made on the proposed project, proposed plan amendment, or both.

Written comments must be submitted to William A. Dunkelberger, Forest Supervisor, 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, Nevada 89431. Fax: (775) 355-5399. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, pdf, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), and Word (.doc or .docx). Comments can be uploaded to the "Comments/Objection on Project" section of the project website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=41487> under "get connected", or email comments to: comments-intermin-humboldt-toiyabe-carson@fs.fed.us.

The proposed project activities are subject to the objection process pursuant to 36 CFR part 218, subparts A and B. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project during a public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection under 36 CFR part 218. For objection eligibility each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project activities must either sign the comments or verify identity upon request.

The proposed forest plan amendment is subject to the objection process pursuant to 36 CFR part 219, subpart B. Those who have submitted substantive formal comments, as defined in 36 CFR 219, related to the plan amendment may file an objection based on the previously submitted substantive formal comment.

Communications from the public regarding this project, including commenter's names and contact information, will become part of the public record.